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1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal having a water content of less than 3% by weight.

7. The sweetener composition of claim 1, wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises an A-type crystal.

8. The sweetener composition of claim 1, wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises an A-type crystal having a water content in the range of 3 to 6% by weight.

9. The sweetener composition of claim 1, wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises an A-type crystal which exhibits CuK $\alpha$  (2 $\theta$ ) X-ray diffraction peaks of at least 6.0°, 24.8°, 8.2°, and 16.5°.

10. The sweetener composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of diluents, thinners, excipients, sugar alcohols, oligosaccharides, food fibers, dietary fibers, synthetic high-potency sweeteners, Acesulfame K, Alitame, saccharin, low-potency sweeteners, sucrose, glucose and mixtures thereof.

11. A drink composition, comprising:

(A) a mixture, comprising

(a) N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester;

and

(b) aspartame;

and

(B) a potable liquid, wherein said aspartame is present in said mixture in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total amount of said aspartame and said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester.

12. A method for preparing a sweetener composition, comprising:

(1) drying A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester to obtain C-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester; and

(2) mixing said C-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine

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1-methyl ester with aspartame, to obtain said sweetener composition, wherein said aspartame is present in said sweetener composition in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total weight of said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and said aspartame.

13. A method for producing a sweetener, comprising:

mixing N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester with aspartame, to obtain said sweetener composition,

wherein said aspartame is present in said sweetener composition in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total weight of said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and said aspartame.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal having a water content of less than 3% by weight.

15. A method for improving the dissolution rate of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester, comprising:

mixing said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester with aspartame, prior to dissolving said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester,

wherein said aspartame is mixed with said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester in an amount of 50 to 97% by weight based on the total weight of said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester and said aspartame.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester comprises a C-type crystal having a water content of less than 3% by weight.

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